



IMPACT REPORT 2021/22

CHANGING YOUNG LIVES SINCE 1883



THE HARROW
CLUB FAMILY

WHO WE ARE

The Harrow Club is a community-based youth organisation offering innovative, accessible and high-quality opportunities, enabling young people often from disadvantaged backgrounds to maximise life chances.



Our objectives are to:

- ▶ Deliver high-quality youth work
- ▶ Encourage and support children and young people to stay in school
- ▶ Support vulnerable young people who are at risk of violence
- ▶ Keep young people and the community safe

Over the last few years, we have been redefining what a contemporary youth organisation offers young people to provide them with innovative, accessible, and high-quality opportunities, to enable them to maximise their life chances.

We run 5 youth clubs in the boroughs of Kensington & Chelsea and Hammersmith & Fulham as well as a range of projects covering sports, arts and performing arts, media, music, digital and specialist work such as our gangs project, motor vehicle workshops and educational programmes aimed at reducing school exclusions.



OUR WORK IS NEEDED MORE THAN EVER...



The two West London boroughs we work in have some of the highest school exclusion rates in the country, meaning children are removed from mainstream education and placed in pupil referral units where sadly their life chances are dramatically reduced.



Loss of schooling and face-to-face social and community support during the pandemic has adversely affected the children and families we work with, resulting in reduced academic attainment, increasing mental health issues and more challenging behaviour.



Use of foodbanks across the UK has increased by over 30% and many families are falling into extreme poverty whereby they cannot afford to heat their homes or adequately eat. This is now starting to impact a significant number of the families we work with.



More than 100,000 children have gone missing from school during the pandemic, failing to return to education and now at risk of being trafficked by gangs and exploited; through our street youth work and gangs work we have come across more children under this category in the last 18 months.



2021 saw the highest number of teen-on-teen murders in more than 20 years.

WE WORK WITH CHILDREN WHO ARE FROM SOME OF THE MOST DEPRIVED AREAS OF LONDON FACING MULTIPLE CHALLENGES

(TOP 10–20% INDEX OF MULTIPLE DEPRIVATION)

The main club is situated in the most unequal borough in the country – life expectancy is 12 years longer in the richest ward of Kensington & Chelsea compared with the poorest ward. Residents are subject to some of the highest housing costs and overcrowded accommodation in the UK.

65%

are from single-parent households

90%

are from ethnic minority backgrounds

75%

are eligible for free school meals

25%+

have a diagnosed learning disability or a behavioural or mental health condition

OUR REACH

500+

children and young people aged 8–24 supported each year

20+

schools partnered with to support local young people

17

ongoing programmes tailored to respond to the needs of young people in our community

70+

hours of regular provision each week

A MESSAGE FROM OUR CHAIR, PHILIPPE CHAPPATTE

I am very proud to chair the Harrow Club, an organisation with a longstanding history of service to the community.

The Club is in the process of transforming itself to be able to deal more effectively with the most pressing needs of young people in the most disadvantaged parts of the communities we serve. Our wide-ranging programmes – we have 16 currently running in 5 separate youth clubs across West London – provide not only the core traditional youth club services that the Club has always provided for 8 to 12 year olds (Juniors) and 12 to 20 year olds (Seniors) but in addition highly innovative programs that are focused on young people who are involved in criminality or gangs and also those who are at risk of being excluded from schools. These innovative programmes are being pioneered by the Club to deal with the most pressing needs of today's young people at risk from violence and exclusion. These programmes bring our youth workers into the most challenging environments that are not typically faced by youth clubs and we need your support to continue this vital work. Our ambition is to redefine what a model youth club does!

This is the first impact report we have published for a few years, and comes at an important time, both for the charity in terms of our project development

and improvement in monitoring and communicating our impact, and also in the broader context as we come out of the pandemic and find ourselves with a new set of challenges and opportunities as young people, and us, adjust to the changed landscape.

INNOVATIVE PROGRAMMES ARE BEING PIONEERED BY THE CLUB TO DEAL WITH THE MOST PRESSING NEEDS OF TODAY'S YOUNG PEOPLE AT RISK

We are passionate and committed to keeping young people safe, and this means reaching out to work with those who are the most disengaged. The best investment one can make is in our children, as they are the future, and at a time when there are many headwinds facing the young, it is imperative we can improve the support and opportunities on offer.



PHILIPPE CHAPPATTE, CHAIR



AREA OF FOCUS

HIGH-QUALITY YOUTH WORK FROM SAFE AND NURTURING SPACES

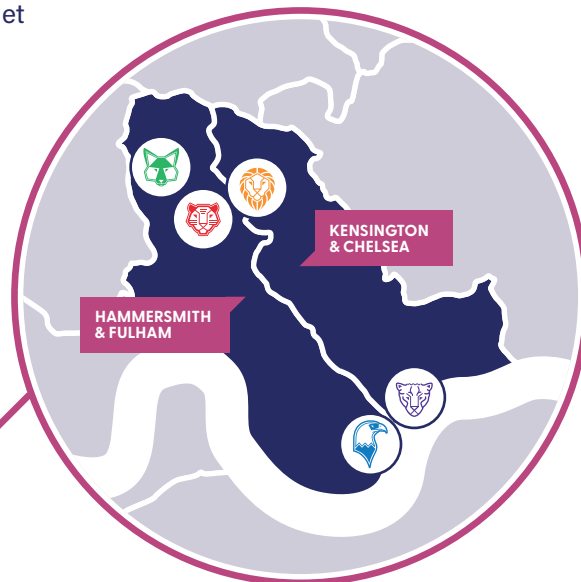
The Harrow Club, as a long-standing youth organisation, believes passionately in the value and importance of youth work, especially in areas with high levels of deprivation and social issues.

For some children their home life is not happy, resourced or supportive. School can be challenging with issues such as bullying and without another safe and supportive space and trusted caring adults, these children are at high risk of being groomed, exploited or ending up never realising their potential. For these children a youth centre is not just a place to play sport, games, take part in activities or go on trips, it is a second home, a place where they feel happier, can make friends and get guidance and support when they might lack it elsewhere.

We run youth activities from 5 sites in West London



The Harrow Club champions youth work. More than half of the youth centres in London have closed since 2010 and youth and community work is not seen as a viable career with low rates of pay and limited progression routes. We are one of the few training centres left where people can gain youth work qualifications. We train a wide range of people of all ages and all 'walks of life' to give back to their local community through the vocation. We also have a training and development programme for our own young people and around 1/3 of our current youth workers were previously members of the Harrow Club.



300+

children and young people supported each week

40+

staff employed, the majority sessional workers and sports coaches

100+

hours a week of provision in school holidays, reaching up to 500 children

72

day trips were organised in summer 2021

5

week-long holidays were organised in summer 2021

IN PRACTICE



Sonia has ongoing issues with her alcoholic mother and since last year has resided with their grandfather. This has caused Sonia to have mixed emotions towards her mother and her living situation. Knowing this, we felt it was important to equip Sonia with the tools to express herself through creative writing and theatre. The creative writing and performing arts projects we ran have allowed Sonia to articulate her feelings instead of bottling up her emotions. Being able to articulate feelings better improved her behaviour, which had started to become challenging with increased incidents of disruptive behaviour and fighting occurring.

Through a one-to-one session we discussed coping methods – what has been tried before, what we can try again and what new methods she can try. Being able to perform in front of others helped improve Sonia's self-esteem and being able to recognise different scenarios and what connotations they have helped improve her observational skills and ability to apply them to her personal life. Furthermore, Sonia has been able to better regulate her emotions.

Both these projects and the 1-2-1 session had a positive impact on Sonia. She has begun to socialise with other young people again and feels confident in speaking to new people.

AREA OF FOCUS

KEEPING CHILDREN IN SCHOOL

Capacity and resource pressures, alongside a focus on league tables, have increased the number of children being excluded from primary schools and entering Pupil Referral Units (PRUs). West London has some of the highest exclusion rates in the country, which increases the inequality of opportunity in two already very unequal boroughs.

The consequences of not addressing this issue include:

- ▶ Approximately 1 in 200 children are excluded from school
- ▶ 1 in 2 of those imprisoned have been excluded from school
- ▶ More than 75% of children who have been excluded from school have, or will later be, diagnosed with a disability (learning, mental health or physical) as opposed to around 25% of the general population.

PROGRAMME

MOVING ON UP

Since 2020 we have been running Moving On Up to support young people aged 9–13 who are at risk of exclusion and their families. On average we reach 30 children in any 12-month period with the aim to reintegrate them back into school or to find other specialist support for them.

We offer daytime provision three times a week. As well as 1-2-1 support, we also offer group sessions which adopt a holistic approach to improving physical, cognitive, behavioural, social and emotional development. Activities include sports, arts/media, mindfulness and additional tutoring. A group meal is an integral part of this programme to encourage interaction. The high staff to student ratio improves outcomes. The young people that attend are referred from local schools, social services, Young Offending Teams and other relevant agencies.

Specific characteristics of the children we work with are:

1. Challenging classroom behaviour leading to a risk of exclusion, suspensions or attending school on a reduced timetable
2. High probability of undiagnosed conditions such as ADHD, autism and dyslexia
3. High level of Adverse Childhood Experiences such as neglect, bullying, abuse and trauma
4. Living in poor-quality, overcrowded accommodation
5. Lacking money and resources to live well on a day-to-day basis and often lacking money for basic provisions.

IN PRACTICE



Without the right guidance and support, Mo* was at high risk of being excluded from school and potentially engaging in criminal activity.

Without the club and this 1-2-1 support from the Moving On Up programme Mo would have been unable to follow any routine in the unprecedented times (of lockdowns) as routine and stability are key to his behaviour. He also needed to offload his endless energy, which he was only able to do at the Harrow club with their space. For a child with ADHD like Mo, Harrow Club was a life-saver through those very tough times.

*NAME CHANGED



AREA OF FOCUS

KEEPING YOUNG PEOPLE AND THE WIDER COMMUNITY SAFE

A key strand of where we make a difference is our commitment to not giving up on any child. This includes supporting young people who are in the criminal justice system and those who are involved in challenging and criminal behaviour. Success in this area can not only turn the lives of individuals around but also adds to community safety and cohesion. This work is challenging but vital to fight the current increasing levels of gang-related exploitation and violence impacting the communities we work in.

The numbers at a glance:

- ▶ **33% of RBKC young people** engaged by Youth Offending Teams (YOT) are attending Pupil Referral Units
- ▶ **14% of young people** engaged by YOT had a formal mental health diagnosis with a further 40% having engaged with mental health services RBKC
- ▶ **Hammersmith & Fulham is in the top 10 London Boroughs for overall crime** and number 8 (2020/21) for violent crime
- ▶ **Local rates for violent crime are now above** what they were pre-pandemic
- ▶ **30 teenagers were stabbed to death** in London in 2021, the highest level since 2008

PROGRAMME

ANOTHER WAY

Through our unique and highly successful Another Way programme, we have a team of 15 staff who provide detached street work and outreach. They provide young people with 3 late-night safe spaces which offer a range of activities and a mentoring programme to support these young people and signpost them to other services. We also offer specialist support for girls and young women at risk of exploitation and an employment programme for young people with criminal records and a lack of traditional academic qualifications.

Impact

1. We have worked with over 150 unique young people at very high risk of involvement in serious youth violence since February 2019
2. We have supported over 40 young people with ongoing mentoring relationships, supporting them to navigate very challenging circumstances and move on to a safer and healthier lifestyle
3. Since June 2019 we have placed 17 young people from this project into job starts and a further 22 have gone back into further education as a result of our employment-focused project called 'Another Way – Pathway to Earn'

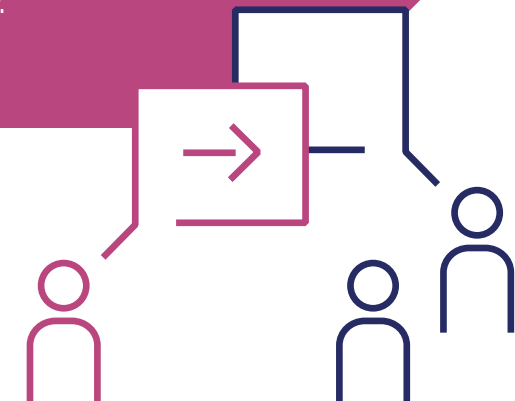
IN PRACTICE



Ruth, aged 17, had been struggling with housing issues and domestic violence in her relationship. Due to these challenges, she disengaged from the service for some time, which made her even more vulnerable. Over the summer staff were able to engage her and she started to attend the late-night sessions. During one of these sessions, she turned a corner and was signposted to a support agency for housing and mental health.

She regained trust in our service and as a result attended 2 trips in which her mental health was drastically improved. Specialist staff supported her to leave her abusive relationship and return to college. A meeting with her and her mother was held which has served to develop their relationship to a healthier place.

There is still some work to do but she has come a long way. Ruth is back at college, safe from the abusive relationship she was in and working on her relationship with her family.



AREA OF FOCUS

WORKING WITHIN LOCAL COMMUNITIES TO BEST SUPPORT THEM TO FLOURISH

Stepping up to help Afghan Refugees in the Traveller Community

In September 2021 the club mobilised to provide weekend youth club activities for Afghan children who had been evacuated and were living in hotels in the area. We did this quickly and without any specific funding in place at the time.

Every weekend we opened up our building from 12–4pm on Saturdays and Sundays and provided transport from nearby hotels to the centre. We ensured we provided a meal as well as donated snacks and refreshments. We worked with local partners such as QPR in the Community Trust who donated sports kit, as well as Fulham and Roehampton Cricket Club who lead on engagement with large numbers of boys and young men through their passion for cricket.

We were particularly keen to engage the parents to allow girls and young women to come to the centre and take part in activities. We did this by assigning female staff members to visit the hotels, pick up the girls and provide female-only sessions. Over the next six months we will be working to integrate the groups

into our general provisions as well as signpost them to other opportunities.

We are also working closely with local councils to ensure that we provide support for Ukrainian arrivals and that hosting families are aware of the club and the support available.

PROGRAMME

SUPPORTING THE TRAVELLER COMMUNITY

The Harrow Club runs a very unique project with this often-overlooked community in North Kensington. Young people in the Traveller community can find the school environment challenging, so we provide both homework support as well as support around personal development and integration into the local community.



IN PRACTICE



Alex*, aged 10, from the Traveller community is one of eight siblings, all of who live in a three-bedroom mobile trailer with their Mum. Dad is absent due to severe domestic violence issues. The domestic violence Alex experienced in his early childhood was extreme and was the primary factor for him being excluded from mainstream school and placed in a Pupil Referral Unit by the age of five.

The pandemic really had an impact on Alex's development and since returning to school he is finding the structure and day extremely intense. He requires support in literacy, but his competence in maths is growing, particularly when calculating. He enjoys boxing and football.

Alex has been coming to the Harrow Club and is responding well to staff and has become an ambassador for our young members. We work with his school, home and Youth Services, and hope that Alex will continue to flourish and reintegrate into mainstream school, maximising his future prospects.

*NAME CHANGED



RESPONSE DURING COVID

The Harrow Club team worked hard and with great dedication, providing face-to-face support for vulnerable children and young people throughout the pandemic.

It was a challenging time for the organisation, the families and the young people and children we support. The more immediate impact was the loss of schooling and professional support from social and health workers, which meant that more children were neglected, groomed and abused and already-challenging home lives became more strained.

The longer-term impact of extended periods of reduced support for these children will in many cases be worse mental and physical health, increased household hardship and poverty, and diminished life opportunities.

“HERE I CAN JUST BE MYSELF, WITHOUT THE PRESSURE FROM THE STREETS, WITHOUT HAVING TO REPRESENT ANYTHING. I THINK THIS TRIP WILL HELP TO SQUASH ANY TENSION, 1000%.”

STEVE, AGE 16

Our impact:

- ▶ Engagement and support of more than 180 children and young people through street outreach from May to July 2020
- ▶ Provision of more than 5,000 hot meals during school holidays, school closures and lockdowns
- ▶ Raising funds to provide over 100 laptops to local children who lacked devices and were unable to keep up with school work
- ▶ Running full summer programmes in both 2020 and 2021; in 2020 we created our own summer camp to provide day trips for young people. During the last summer we delivered 6 residentials, provided over 70 day trips, cooked 3,500 meals, and engaged more than 350 children, from 6 clubs, over 5 weeks with a team of more than 30 delivery staff.

Some highlights of our summer programme included raft building and sailing, cultural trips to the national maritime museum in Greenwich, an inter-club football competition and track days on bikes and karts.



“BEING AT THE HARROW CLUB GAVE MY DAUGHTER INDEPENDENCE TO EXPLORE AND MAKE FRIENDS WITHOUT ME. IT’S VERY VALUABLE AS IT GIVES US PARENTS TIME OUT AND ALSO GAVE MY DAUGHTER THE OPPORTUNITY TO DO ACTIVITIES THAT I CAN’T AFFORD TO PAY FOR. MY DAUGHTER LOVED EVERY MINUTE.”

ANNA, LOCAL PARENT



“THIS WAS THE BEST DAY OF MY SUMMER HOLIDAY.”

DEAN, AGE 10

FINANCES

The Club has made significant strides in recent years to both increase turnover and also to diversify income streams. We have grown by taking on a new youth club as well as developing new partnership and specialist projects. Our financial position is stronger than it was 3 years ago and we are in a good position at the year-end.

The income from the continuing pandemic and associated restrictions has affected the Harrow Club, as it has the majority of businesses and charities that utilise their premises for hire. Pre-pandemic we would receive around £100,000 of income per year from room hire and from leasing spare office space, whilst we received around 20% of this in 2021/22 leading to a loss of £80,000 of vital unrestricted income. The other negative factor affecting income generation was the inability to run larger fundraising events, in particular our annual dinner, which brought in over £100,000 in 2019 as well as giving the club a chance to engage new supporters.

In 2020/21 the club spent less on charitable activities than expected due to the impact of restrictions meaning that some projects could not start, and others had reduced periods of delivery. In 2020/21 the club decided to deliver increased school holiday programmes comprising of short holidays and day trips to offer children and young people impacted by the lockdowns more opportunities to take part in fun activities in the countryside and by the sea. This meant that we ended the year with a small surplus of around £20,000.

2022/23 will be a challenging year financially, with increased pressure on available funding coinciding with high inflation and the need to invest in the staffing team, in particular to recruit and retain motivated youth workers.



OUR PARTNERSHIPS

Over the last year we have worked with more than 40 partners, including local businesses, youth and community groups, schools, churches and sports clubs. Many of our key projects would not be possible without collaborative partnership work or the kind support of sponsors and supporters.

Collaborations included working with QPR in the Community Trust and Fulham Cricket Club to provide sporting activities, equipment and clothing to support young Afghan refugee arrivals living in hotels. We also worked with the Chelsea Theatre and other youth and community organisations to run a series of summer holiday breakfasts and intergenerational activities.

NORTH KENSINGTON YOUTH COLLECTIVE

The Harrow Club works with Dalgarno Trust, London Sports Trust and Rugby Portobello Trust with funding from the K+C Foundation and RBKC council. We run a range of projects throughout the year such as a weekly provision for girls and young women, ongoing sports and exercise sessions, a joint holiday programme and a range of workshops on living healthier and happier lifestyles.

KICKSTART – YOUTH EMPLOYMENT PROGRAMME

Working with P3 Housing, the local Job Centres and a range of local technology businesses the Harrow Club created 18 Kickstart career starts. 13 of the young people have gone on to full-time paid employment at the end of the initial programme, 4 going on to further training and 1 moving to Canada. The programme was a great success, and we are looking to build on it with a further pilot programme to support young people, who are relatively disadvantaged, into career starts in the technology sector.

LOCAL SCHOOLS

We worked with more than 15 schools over the last year. This included supporting pupils through our intervention programmes around exclusion and gang exploitation, as well as a number of independent schools who fundraise to support our work as well participating in volunteering opportunities.

OUR FUTURE PLANS

We will continue to provide high-quality and impactful programmes which are established in response to clear identified need. Our programmes will run in conjunction with and compliment other provision and will be based on our particular expertise and track record of supporting young people in our community.



We are especially focused on keeping children in mainstream education and avoiding school exclusion at an early age. Specifically, our Moving On Up programme aims to stop children from entering Pupil Referral Units where their life opportunities diminish rapidly and the cost to the state increases dramatically, both financially and socially. We are also committed to developing and expanding our Another Way programme, providing detached youth work, mentoring and late-night provision focusing on young people at risk or currently involved in gang-related criminality.



450TH ANNIVERSARY OF HARROW SCHOOL AND 140 YEARS OF THE HARROW CLUB

The club is celebrating the 450th anniversary of Harrow School, its founding benefactor, throughout 2022 and the club will have its 140th year in 2023. We have many exciting events planned over the next year which will bring the community together and highlight the services that we offer.

CHAMPIONING YOUTH WORK

The club is committed to continue to provide high-quality youth work and a safe space for children and young people to go to play, learn and explore. We also provide youth work training and accreditation and are passionate about championing youth work as a vocation and campaigning for more support for the often-neglected sector.



CAPITAL PROJECT

The main Harrow Club building in Freston Road is a community hub and has been part of the fabric of the community for decades. In many cases we have worked with whole generations of families living locally. The last major refurbishment works of the Harrow Club on Freston Road took place in 2001 and we are now approaching the time when another capital refurbishment project is required to keep the fabric and utility of the building up to a required standard. We will be launching this capital funding appeal in 2023 to coincide with our anniversary year.



THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO HAS
WORKED WITH US AND SUPPORTED
US OVER THE PAST YEAR.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO
INCREASING OUR IMPACT
AND SUCCESSES IN 2022
AND BEYOND.



OUR CURRENT PROJECTS

Harrow Club Senior
& Junior Youth Club

Moving On Up –
Early Intervention Project

Motor Project

Hammersmith & Fulham
White City Youth Club

Detached Project

Mentoring

Hammersmith & Fulham
Old Oak Youth Club

Football

White City
Imperial College

Hammersmith & Fulham
Sands End Youth Club

Family Support

Youth Racial Justice

Chelsea Youth Club

Peer Education Project

North Kensington
Youth Collective –
Partnership Project

Another Way

Afghan Project



THE HARROW
CLUB FAMILY

FOR MORE INFORMATION

CONTACT LIAM CLIPSHAM

SENIOR DEVELOPMENT MANAGER

LIAM@HARROWCLUB.ORG

CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER: 1054757

COMPANY NUMBER: 3161792

REGISTERED OFFICE:

187, FRESTON ROAD, LONDON, W10 6TH